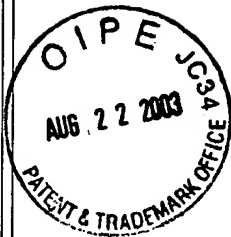


Attorney Docket:
33082 M 102



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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CONFIRMATION NO. 5643

Applicants : Keizo HIROSE et al.

Serial No. : 09/960,413

Art Unit : 1744

Filed : September 24, 2001

Examiner : S. Balsis

For : SUBSTRATE CLEANING TOOL AND
SUBSTRATE CLEANING APPARATUS

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9/2/03

RESPONSE TO PAPER NO. 2

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

This is in response to the Office Action mailed July 23, 2003 (Paper No. 2) in the above-identified patent application. A response is due by August 25, 2003 (August 23, 2003 being a Saturday). Please accept this paper as timely filed.

Paper No. 2 alleges that pending claims 1-19 are directed to two patently distinct species, as follows:

- Specie I- Figure 5, bristle member bundled at one end; and
- Specie II-Figure 9, bristle member bundled at both ends.

Paper No. 2 requires that Applicants elect a single disclosed species for prosecution in this application.

Applicants elect to prosecute the claims corresponding to Specie I (Figure 5) in this patent application. Applicants submit that claims 8-10 correspond to the elected Specie with claims 1-7 and 12-19 being generic.

Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for examination on the merits and early action in that regard is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP



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Date : August 22, 2003

MAM/BLN